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PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1998-1999

Draft report of the Fifth Committee

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III. CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL SUBJECTS

A. Request for subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research resulting from the recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Institute contained in the report of the Board (A/52/272)

14. The Committee considered this subject at its 38th meeting, on 9 December 1997. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/52/14); the related report of the Advisory Committee was presented orally by the Chairman (see A/C.5/52/SR.38).

15. At the same meeting, the Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend that the General Assembly approve the recommendation of a subvention of 213,000 United States dollars from the regular budget of the United Nations for 1998, on the understanding that no additional appropriation would be required under section 2B, Disarmament, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999 (see para. 28, draft resolution III, sect. I).

B. Joint Inspection Unit

16. The Committee considered this subject at its 26th, 27th and 46th meetings, on 10 and 11 November and 22 December 1997, in connection with the general debate on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999. It had before it the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999,[1] the related report of the Advisory Committee (A/52/7, chap. II, part X) and the relevant section of the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination.[2]

17. At its 46th meeting, on 22 December 1997, the Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend that the General Assembly approve the gross budget for the Joint Inspection Unit for the biennium 1998-1999 in the amount of 8,174,000 dollars (see para. 28, draft resolution III, sect. II).

C. International Civil Service Commission

18. The Committee considered this subject at its 26th, 27th and 46th meetings, on 10 and 11 November and 22 December 1997, in connection with the general debate on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999. It had before it the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999,[1] the related report of the Advisory Committee (A/52/7, chap. II, part X) and the relevant section of the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination.[2]

19. At its 46th meeting, on 22 December 1997, the Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend that the General Assembly approve the gross budget for the

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[1] See Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/52/6/Rev.1), vol. II, sect. 29.

[2] Ibid., Supplement No. 16 (A/52/16), chap. III.A.

International Civil Service Commission for the biennium 1998-1999 in the amount of 11,475,800 dollars (see para. 28, draft resolution III, sect. III).

D. Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council at its organizational and substantive sessions of 1997

20. The Committee considered this subject at its 38th meeting, on 9 December 1997. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/52/17).

21. At the same meeting, the Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend that the General Assembly take note of the report of the Secretary-General on the estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council (A/C.5/52/SR.38) (see para. 28, draft resolution III, sect. IV).

E. Administrative expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

22. The Committee considered this subject at its 23rd, 26th and xxth meetings, on 6 and 10 November and xx December 1997. It had before it the report of the Standing Committee of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board to the General Assembly and to the member organizations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (A/52/278) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/52/519).

23. At its xxth meeting, on , the Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend that the General Assembly

(a) Approve expenses chargeable directly to the Fund totalling 50,069,500 dollars net for the biennium 1998-1999, and an increase of 4,031,300 dollars net for the biennium 1996-1997, for the administration of the Fund;

(b) Approve an addition to the regular budget of the United Nations for the biennium 1998-1999 in the amount of 2,224,900 dollars for the United Nations share of mainframe computer services utilized by the Fund and an amount of 108,600 dollars to be added to the United Nations share of the costs of external audit of the Fund;

(c) Authorize the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board to supplement the voluntary contributions to the Emergency Fund for the biennium 1998-1999 by an amount not exceeding 73,000 dollars, so that for the biennium 1998-1999 the resources available to the Emergency Fund would amount to 200,000 dollars after taking into account a voluntary contribution received by the Fund as a bequest from a retired participant (see para. 28, draft resolution III, sect. V).

F. Contingency Fund

24. The Committee considered this subject at its 44th meeting, on 18 December 1997. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/52/35).

25. At the same meeting, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly note that a balance of 18,754,800 dollars remains in the Contingency Fund (see para. 28, draft resolution III, sect. VI).

G. Agreement between the United Nations and the Carnegie Foundation concerning the use of the Peace Palace at The Hague

26. The Fifth Committee considered this subject at its 39th meeting, on 10 December 1997. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the draft supplementary agreement between the United Nations and the Carnegie Foundation concerning the use of the Peace Palace at The Hague (A/C.5/52/16), and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/52/7/Add.5).

27. At the same meeting, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend that the General Assembly take note of the report of the Secretary-General and the recommendations of the Advisory Committee contained in its report, and approve the draft supplementary agreement between the United Nations and the Carnegie Foundation concerning the use of the Peace Palace at The Hague (see para. 28, draft resolution III, sect. VII).

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

28. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Questions related to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999

[see A/C.5/52/L.18]

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999

A

BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE BIENNIUM 1998-1999

The General Assembly

Resolves that for the biennium 1998-1999:

(a) Appropriations totalling 2,532,331,200 United States dollars are hereby approved for the following purposes:

Section			United States dollars
PART I.	Overall policy-making, direction and coordination		
	1A. Overall policy-making, direction and coordination		41 454 500
	1B. General Assembly affairs and conference services		436 329 200
		Total, part I	478 283 700
PART II.	Political affairs		
	2A. Political affairs		42 061 500
	2B. Disarmament		13 310 600
	3. Peacekeeping operations and special missions		146 760 600
	4. Peaceful uses of outer space		3 967 300
		Total, part II	206 100 000
PART III.	International justice and law		
	5. International Court of Justice		20 479 300
	6. Legal affairs		33 035 400
		Total, part III	53 514 700
PART IV.	International cooperation for development		
	7A. Economic and social affairs		109 262 300
	8. Africa: New Agenda for Development		5 385 200
	11A. Trade and development		96 296 900
	11B. International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO		19 812 700

Section			United States dollars
	12.	Environment	8 807 400
	13.	Human settlements	12 790 300
	14.	Crime control	5 413 600
	15.	International drug control	14 825 500
		Total, part IV	272 593 900
PART V.	Regional cooperation for development		
	16.	Economic and social development in Africa	87 926 400
	17.	Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific	56 167 500
	18.	Economic development in Europe	44 875 400
	19.	Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean	87 906 900
	20.	Economic and social development in Western Asia	49 925 000
	21.	Regular programme of technical cooperation	43 567 700
		Total, part V	370 368 900
PART VI.	Human rights and humanitarian affairs		
	22.	Human rights	42 201 500
	23.	Protection of and assistance to refugees	46 005 900
	24.	Palestine refugees	21 221 800
	25.	Humanitarian assistance	17 933 700
		Total, part VI	127 362 900
PART VII.	Public information		
	26.	Communications and public information	138 040 400
		Total, part VII	138 040 400
PART VIII.	Common support services		
	27.	Administrative services	446 190 700
		Total, part VIII	446 190 700
PART IX.	Internal oversight		
	28.	Internal oversight	18 359 600
		Total, part IX	18 359 600

Section			United States dollars
PART X.	Jointly financed administrative activities and special expenses		
	29. Jointly financed administrative activities		5 627 400
	30. Special expenses		52 837 000
		Total, part X	58 464 400
PART XI.	Capital expenditures		
	31. Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance		34 550 300
		Total, part XI	34 550 300
PART XII.	Staff assessment		
	32. Staff assessment		315 436 700
		Total, part XII	315 436 700
PART XIII.	Development account		
	34. Development account		13 065 000
		Total, part XIII	13 065 000
		Total, expenditure sections	2 532 331 200

(b) The Secretary-General shall be authorized to transfer credits between sections of the budget with the concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

(c) The total net provision made under the various sections of the budget for contractual printing shall be administered as a unit under the direction of the United Nations Publications Board;

(d) In addition to the appropriations approved under paragraph 1 above, an amount of 250,000 dollars is appropriated for each year of the biennium 1998-1999 from the accumulated income of the Library Endowment Fund for the purchase of books, periodicals, maps and library equipment and for such other expenses of the Library at the Palais des Nations as are in accordance with the objects and provisions of the endowment.

B

INCOME ESTIMATES FOR THE BIENNIUM 1998-1999

The General Assembly

Resolves that for the biennium 1998-1999:

(a) Estimates of income other than assessments on Member States totalling 363,840,300 United States dollars are approved as follows:

Income section		United States dollars
1.	Income from staff assessment	325 486 700
2.	General income	33 743 600
3.	Services to the public	4 610 000
	Total, income sections	363 840 300

(b) The income from staff assessment shall be credited to the Tax Equalization Fund in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955;

(c) Direct expenses of the United Nations Postal Administration, services to visitors, catering and related services, garage operations, television services and the sale of publications, not provided for under the budget appropriations, shall be charged against the income derived from those activities.

C

FINANCING OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEAR 1998

The General Assembly

Resolves that for the year 1998:

(a) Budget appropriations consisting of 1,266,165,600 United States dollars, being half of the appropriations of 2,532,331,200 dollars approved for the biennium 1998-1999 by the General Assembly under paragraph 1 of resolution A above, and 61,209,000 dollars, being the decrease in revised appropriations for 1996-1997 approved by the Assembly in its resolution 52/XXX A, shall be financed in accordance with regulations 5.1 and 5.2 of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations as follows:

(i) 13,938,300 dollars, consisting of 19,176,800 dollars, being the net of half of the estimated income other than staff assessment approved for

the biennium 1998-1999 under resolution B above, less 5,238,500 dollars, being the decrease in income other than staff assessment for 1996-1997;

(ii) 109,278 dollars, being the contributions of new Member States for 1995;

(iii) 1,190,909,022 dollars, being the assessment on Member States in accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/XX B of xx December 1997 on the scale of assessments for the years 1998 and 1999;

(b) There shall be set off against the assessments on Member States, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund in the total amount of 139,281,750 dollars, consisting of:

(i) 162,743,350 dollars, being half of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the biennium 1998-1999 under resolution B above;

(ii) Less 23,461,600 dollars, being the decrease in the income from staff assessment for the biennium 1996-1997 approved by the Assembly in its resolution 52/xxx B.

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

Special subjects relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999

The General Assembly

I

Request for subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research resulting from the recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Institute contained in the report of the Board[3]

Approves the recommendation of a subvention of 213,000 United States dollars from the regular budget of the United Nations for 1998, on the understanding that no additional appropriation would be required under section 2B, Disarmament, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999.[4]

II

Joint Inspection Unit

Approves the gross budget for the Joint Inspection Unit for the biennium 1998-1999 in the amount of 8,174,000 dollars.[5]

III

International Civil Service Commission

Approves a gross budget for the International Civil Service Commission for the biennium 1998-1999 in the amount of 11,475,800 dollars.[5]

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[3] A/52/272, annex II, para. 58.

[4] Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/52/6/Rev.1), vols. I and II, and A/52/303 and Add.1.

[5] See Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/52/6/Rev.1), vol. II, sect. 29, and A/52/303 and Add.1.

IV

Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council at its organizational and substantive sessions of 1997

Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General[6] on revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council at its organizational and substantive sessions of 1997.

V

Administrative expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

Having considered the report of the Standing Committee of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board to the General Assembly and to the member organizations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund,[7] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[8]

1. Concurs with the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the administrative expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund;[9]

2. Approves expenses chargeable directly to the Fund totalling 50,069,500 dollars net for the biennium 1998-1999, and an increase of 4,031,300 dollars net for the biennium 1996-1997, for the administration of the Fund;

3. Approves an addition to the regular budget of the United Nations for the biennium 1998-1999 in the amount of 2,224,900 dollars for the United Nations share of mainframe computer services utilized by the Fund and an amount of 108,600 dollars to be added to the United Nations share of the costs of external audit of the Fund;

4. Authorizes the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board to supplement the voluntary contributions to the Emergency Fund for the biennium 1998-1999 by an amount not exceeding 73,000 dollars, so that for the biennium 1998-1999, the resources available to the Emergency Fund would amount to 200,000 dollars after taking into account a voluntary contribution received by the Fund as a bequest from a retired participant.

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[6] A/C.5/52/17.

[7] A/52/278.

[8] A/52/519.

[9] Ibid., paras. 26 and 27.

VI

Contingency fund

Notes that a balance of 18,754,800 dollars remains in the contingency fund.[10]

VII

Agreement between the United Nations and the Carnegie Foundation concerning the use of the Peace Palace at The Hague

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the draft supplementary agreement between the United Nations and the Carnegie Foundation concerning the use of the Peace Palace at The Hague[11] and the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its report;[12]

2. Approves the draft supplementary agreement between the United Nations and the Carnegie Foundation concerning the use of the Peace Palace at The Hague.

DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

Unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 1998-1999

The General Assembly

1. Authorizes the Secretary-General, with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and subject to the Financial Regulations of the United Nations and the provisions of paragraph 3 below, to enter into commitments in the biennium 1998-1999 to meet unforeseen and extraordinary expenses arising either during or subsequent to the biennium, provided that the concurrence of the Advisory Committee shall not be necessary for:

(a) Such commitments, not exceeding a total of 5 million United States dollars in any one year of the biennium 1998-1999, as the Secretary-General certifies relate to the maintenance of peace and security;

(b) Such commitments as the President of the International Court of Justice certifies relate to expenses occasioned by:

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[10] See A/C.5/52/35.

[11] A/C.5/52/16.

[12] A/52/7/Add.5.

(i) The designation of ad hoc judges (Statute of the International Court of Justice, Article 31), not exceeding a total of 300,000 dollars;

(ii) The calling of witnesses and the appointment of experts (Statute, Article 50), and the appointment of assessors (Statute, Article 30), not exceeding a total of 50,000 dollars;

(iii) The maintenance in office for the completion of cases of judges who have not been re-elected (Statute, Article 13, paragraph 3), not exceeding a total of 40,000 dollars;

(iv) The payment of pensions and travel and removal expenses of retiring judges and travel and removal expenses and installation grant of members of the Court (Statute, Article 32, paragraph 7), not exceeding a total of 180,000 dollars;

(v) The work of the Court or its Chambers away from The Hague (Statute, Article 22), not exceeding a total of 50,000 dollars;

(c) Such commitments, in an amount not exceeding 500,000 dollars, in the biennium 1998-1999, as the Secretary-General certifies are required for interorganizational security measures pursuant to section IV of General Assembly resolution 36/235 of 18 December 1981;

2. Resolves that the Secretary-General shall report to the Advisory Committee and to the General Assembly at its fifty-third and fifty-fourth sessions all commitments made under the provisions of the present resolution, together with the circumstances relating thereto, and shall submit supplementary estimates to the Assembly in respect of such commitments;

3. Decides that, for the biennium 1998-1999, if a decision of the Security Council results in the need for the Secretary-General to enter into commitments relating to the maintenance of peace and security in an amount exceeding 10 million dollars in respect of the decision, that matter shall be brought to the General Assembly, or, if the Assembly is suspended or not in session, a resumed or special session of the Assembly shall be convened by the Secretary-General to consider the matter.

DRAFT RESOLUTION V

Working Capital Fund for the biennium 1998-1999

The General Assembly

Resolves that:

1. The Working Capital Fund shall be established for the biennium 1998-1999 in the amount of 100 million United States dollars;

2. Member States shall make advances to the Working Capital Fund in accordance with the scale adopted by the General Assembly for contributions of Member States to the budget for the year 1998;

3. There shall be set off against this allocation of advances:

(a) Credits to Member States resulting from transfers made in 1959 and 1960 from the surplus account to the Working Capital Fund in an adjusted amount of 1,025,092 dollars;

(b) Cash advances paid by Member States to the Working Capital Fund for the biennium 1996-1997 in accordance with General Assembly resolution 50/218 of 23 December 1995;

4. Should the credits and advances paid by any Member State to the Working Capital Fund for the biennium 1996-1997 exceed the amount of that Member State's advance under the provisions of paragraph 2 above, the excess shall be set off against the amount of the contributions payable by the Member State in respect of the biennium 1998-1999;

5. The Secretary-General is authorized to advance from the Working Capital Fund:

(a) Such sums as may be necessary to finance budgetary appropriations pending the receipt of contributions; sums so advanced shall be reimbursed as soon as receipts from contributions are available for the purpose;

(b) Such sums as may be necessary to finance commitments that may be duly authorized under the provisions of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, in particular resolution 52/XXX of XX December 1997 relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses; the Secretary-General shall make provision in the budget estimates for reimbursing the Working Capital Fund;

(c) Such sums as may be necessary to continue the revolving fund to finance miscellaneous self-liquidating purchases and activities which, together with net sums outstanding for the same purpose, do not exceed 200,000 dollars; advances in excess of the total of 200,000 dollars may be made with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

(d) With the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee, such sums as may be required to finance payments of advance insurance premiums where the period of insurance extends beyond the end of the biennium in which payment is made; the Secretary-General shall make provision in the budget estimates of each biennium, during the life of the related policies, to cover the charges applicable to each biennium;

(e) Such sums as may be necessary to enable the Tax Equalization Fund to meet current commitments pending the accumulation of credits; such advances shall be repaid as soon as credits are available in the Tax Equalization Fund;

6. Should the provision in paragraph 1 above prove inadequate to meet the purposes normally related to the Working Capital Fund, the Secretary-General is authorized to utilize, in the biennium 1998-1999, cash from special funds and accounts in his custody, under the conditions approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 1341 (XIII) of 13 December 1958, or the proceeds of loans authorized by the Assembly.